

Much has been accomplished during the past two decades to institutionalize victims' rights in this country. Bills of rights have been enacted at the Federal level and by 49 State governments to codify certain essential protections for victims. All 50 States now have crime victim compensation programs. Federal assistance under the Victims of Crime Act continues to supplement State crime victim compensation programs, support programs that provide direct assistance to crime victims, establish assistance for Native Americans who have been victimized, and provide training to increase the sensitivity of criminal justice practitioners to the special needs of crime victims.

While these gains are significant, there is still much that must be done to combat the crime trends that further threaten our communities. We must continue to work together to prevent crime and to protect ourselves, our families, and our fellow Americans from violence. We must work to provide opportunity where despair reigns. We must work together to ensure that hardened criminals who prey upon the innocent receive punishment commensurate with the harm—physical, emotional, and financial—that they have inflicted. And we must continue to work together to ensure that the innocent victims of crime receive the services they need and fair treatment by our Nation's criminal justice system.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 62, has designated the week of April 25 through May 1, 1993, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of April 25 through May 1, 1993, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week. I urge all Americans to join in honoring those who work in behalf of crime victims and their families and to commit themselves to working together with their neighbors for safer streets, safer schools, and brighter tomorrows for all our citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6552 of April 28, 1993

Death of Cesar Chavez

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

Cesar Chavez came from the humble yet proud beginnings of a migrant worker to lead those same workers in a movement that irreversibly shaped our Nation and brought justice and dignity to thousands. After the Depression forced young Cesar and his family from their ranch, he began working in the fields at an early age. His family traveled throughout California following the seasonal work, and he attended nearly 70 schools before dropping out to help support his family. Al-

though his formal education ended after the seventh grade, Cesar learned much from the courageous example of his parents. Often among the first to resist exploitation and to stand up to injustice, they instilled in Cesar a profound respect for the intrinsic value of each human person, and a fervent desire to protect that value. Inspired by the teachings of a Catholic priest and by the writings of Ghandi and other great civil leaders, Cesar rose to become one of the great labor leaders of our time.

The United Farm Workers, the union he founded and led for almost three decades, became a symbol of empowerment and pride for many workers. Cesar's innate understanding of the problems facing migrant workers allowed him to organize thousands of farm workers across the Nation. With natural leadership and unflagging determination, he achieved real progress where others had failed.

His insistence on nonviolent tactics stood in stark contrast to the bitterness and brutality that were used in resistance. The strength of his vision and the power of his leadership enabled him to take his struggle directly to the American people. He focused our Nation's attention on the economic and social plight of migrant farm workers and, in the process, taught us how injustice anywhere affects us everywhere.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, in tribute to the memory of Cesar Chavez, do hereby call upon the citizens of this great Nation to reflect on and honor the life of this distinguished leader, veteran, and American.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6553 of April 30, 1993

National Day of Prayer, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The American people were the first to define a nation in terms of both spirituality and human liberty. Throughout our Nation's history, America has been a beacon for millions in search of spiritual and religious freedom. Immigrants have come to the United States seeking not just freedom from persecution and discrimination, but also freedom for the right of self-determination. On this National Day of Prayer, we reaffirm this fundamental freedom of religion that has made our Nation so strong.

Thomas Jefferson understood the greater purpose of the liberty that our Founding Fathers sought during the creation of our Nation. Although it was against the British that the colonists fought for political rights, the true source of the rights of man was clearly stated in the Declara-